

PATIENTS' LOCKER SEARCH

PROCEDURE

- Whenever possible locker searches should be carried out by two staff in the presence of the patient. However, nursing staff have the right to undertake the search without the patient present if the patient refuses to co-operate or where there are other reasons for doing so. Where the patient is not present the facts, including the reason for their absence should be recorded in the patient's medical notes and the daily 24 hour report book.
- Staff conducting the search should wear disposable gloves.
- All items in the locker should be removed and examined for concealment of prohibited or restricted items
- A record of the search should be entered in the ward's searches of rooms and buildings book and must include the names of the staff carrying out the search